



Department of Justice

United States Attorney Gregory G. Lockhart
Southern District of Ohio

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CONTACT: Fred Alverson
Tel: 614-469-5715
FAX: 614-469-5503

PRODUCER OF CHILD PORNOGRAPHY SENTENCED TO OVER 17 YEARS FOR SEXUAL EXPLOITATION OF MINOR

DAYTON – Judge Walter H. Rice sentenced Gary Black, age 52, of Beavercreek, Ohio, in United States District Court today to 210 months, or 17 years and 6 months in Federal prison for taking sexually explicit digital photographs of acquaintances under the age of 18 and sharing them on the Internet. In handing down the sentence in what he termed a very serious and “terribly sad” case for the victims, Judge Rice also required that Gary Black be placed on supervised release and to register as a sex offender for life after his release from prison. Further, Gary Black is to complete 100 hours of community service within the first two years of his supervision, pay restitution to the parents of one of his victims, and forfeit all his camera and computer equipment.

Gregory G. Lockhart, United States Attorney for the Southern District of Ohio, and Brian Moskowitz, Special Agent in Charge, Bureau of Immigration and Customs Enforcement, announced the sentence handed down today by Senior United States Judge Walter H. Rice.

In a statement to the court, Gary Black apologized to the victims and to his family and stated that he was grateful that he was stopped before his actions with the children progressed further.

According to a statement of facts filed with Black’s plea, he took sexually explicit photographs of at least four female acquaintances under the age of 18 between January 2003 and February 2006. Black posted the photos on a Website which was designed for photographers to share, comment on and buy photographs. Black also used a peer-to-peer program to share and talk about his photographs with at least one other user. Black admitted in court today that the victims were under the age of 12 years old. Black has been held in federal custody since his arrest in September of 2006.

“Producing child pornography is one of the most serious forms of child abuse. It can cause lifelong mental and/or physical harm to a child. Stopping the production of such images is a goal of surpassing importance for our office. Congress has sent a clear message that those who indulge in sexually exploiting children by any means, including producing child pornography, face severe sanctions” Lockhart said.

Lockhart commended the ICE agents who investigated the case and Assistant U.S. Attorney Laura Clemmens, who prosecuted the case.

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